

DATE ALLOWED: JUNE 16, 2006



Docket No.: 242299US2

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



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RE: Application Serial No.: 10/659,468  
Applicants: Masahiko SHAKUTO, et al.  
Filing Date: September 11, 2003  
For: CLEANING DEVICE AND METHOD, IMAGE  
FORMING APPARATUS, AND PROCESS  
CARTRIDGE  
Group Art Unit: 2852  
Examiner: LEE, Susan Shuk Yin

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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DOCKET NO: 242299US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
MASAHIKO SHAKUTO, ET AL. : EXAMINER: LEE, S.  
SERIAL NO: 10/659,468 : (FILED: SEPTEMBER 11, 2003)  
ALLOWED: JUNE 16, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2852  
FOR: CLEANING DEVICE AND :  
METHOD, IMAGE FORMING  
APPARATUS, AND PROCESS  
CARTRIDGE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

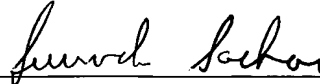
The Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance included at page 3 of the Notice of Allowability mailed June 16, 2006, characterizes the Claims 127 and 138 in terms of "a vibrating unit that vibrates the vibratable member in the direction of flexure so that the end of the blade member does not curl toward the image carrier." However, Applicants respectfully assert neither Claim 127 nor independent Claim 138 recite that the blade member does not curl toward the image carrier.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner's statement of reasons allowance is understood not to apply to independent Claims 127 and 138.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion, and in view of the present amendments, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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